

*A*  
**DECLARATION**  
 OF THE  
**LORDS and COMMONS**  
 OF  
**PARLIAMENT**  
 Assembled at OXFORD.

Of their Proceedings touching a Treaty for  
**PEACE**, and the Refusall thereof;  
 with the severall Letters and Answers  
*that passed therein.*

**CHARLES R.**

**O**Ur expresse Pleasure is, That this Declaration  
 of the Lords and Commons of Parliament as-  
 sembled at *Oxford*, be read by the Parson, Vicar or  
 Curate, in every Church and Chappell within Our  
 Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*.

*March 19. 1643.*

**BRISTOLL,**  
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touching a Treaty for Peace, and the  
Refusall thereof, With the severall  
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**I**F Our most earnest Desires and Endeavours could have prevailed for a Treaty, Our Proceedings therein, without this Declaration, would have manifested to all the World the clearnesse of Our Intentions for the restoring the Peace of this Kingdom: but seeing all the meanes used by us for that purpose, have been rendered fruitlesse, we hold Our Selves bound to let Our Countreys know, what in discharge of Our duty to God and to them, we on Our Parts have done since Our coming to Oxford, to prevent the further effusion of Christian blood, and the desolation of this Kingdom.

His Majesty having by His Proclamation, upon oc-  
A 2
casion



casion of the Inbation from Scotland, and other weighty reasons, Commanded Our attendance at Oxford upon the 22 of January last, there to advise Him for the preservation of the Religion, Laws, and safety of the Kingdom, and to restore it to its former Peace and Security. These Motives, with the true sense of Our Countreys miseries, quickned Our duty to give ready obedience to those His Royall Commands, hoping (by Gods blessing) to have become happy Instruments for such good ends. And upon Our coming hither, we applyed Our Selves with all diligence to advise of such meanes as might most probably settle the Peace of this Kingdom, (the thing most desired by His Majesty and Our selves,) and because we found many gracious offers of Treary for Peace by His Majesty, had been rejected by the Lords and Commons remaining at Westminster, we deemed it fit to write in Our own Names, and thereby make tryall, whether that might produce any better effect for accomplishing Our desires and Our Countreys happinesse. And they having (under pain of death) prohibited the addresse of any Letters or Message to Westminster, but by their Generall, and we conceiving him a Person who (by reason of their trust reposed in him) had a great influence into, and power over their proceedings, resolved to recommend it to his care, and to engage him in that Pious Work, with Our earnest desire to him to represent it to those that trusted him, (to prevent all exceptions and delays) and thereupon the 27. of the same January, dispatched a Letter away under the hands of the Prince his Highnesse, the Duke of York, and of 43 Dukes, Marqueses, Earls, Viscounts, and Barons of the Houle of Peers, and 118. Members of



of the House of Commons there present, (many others of us by reason of distance of place, sicknesse, and imployments in His Majesties Service, and for want of timely notice of the Proclamation of Summons not being then come hither:) which Letter we caused to be inclosed in a Letter from the Earl of Forth the Kings Generall. A true Copy of which Letter from us to the Earl of Essex hereafter followeth, viz.

MY LORD,

**H**IS Majesty having by His Proclamation of the 22. of *Decemb.* (upon the occasion of the Invasion threatned, and in part begun by some of His Subjects of *Scotland*) summon'd all the Members of both Houses of Parliament to attend Him here at *Oxford*: We whose names are underwritten are here met and Assembled in obedience to those His Majesties Commands. His Majesty was pleased to invite us in the said Proclamation by these gracious Expressions; [That His Subjects should see how willing He was to receive advice for the preservation of the Religion, Laws, and safety of the Kingdom, and as farre as in Him lay, to restore it to it's former Peace and security, (His chief and onely end.) from those whom they had trusted, though he could not receive it in the place where he appointed.] This most gracious invitation hath not onely been made good unto us, but seconded and heightened by such unquestionable Demonstrations of the deep and Princely sense which possesse His Royall heart of the miseries and calamities of His poor Subjects in this unnaturall War, and of his most entire and passionate affections, to redeem them from that sad and deplorable condition, by all wayes possible consistent either with His Honour, or with

the future safety of the Kingdom, that, as it were impiety to question the sincerity of them, so were it great want of duty and faithfulness in us, ( His Majesty having vouchsafed to Declare, That he did call us to be witnesses of His actions, and privy to His intentions, ) should we not testify and witness to all the World, the assurance we have of the piety and sincerity of Both; We being most entirely satisfied of this truth, We cannot but confesse, that, amidst our highest afflictions, in the deep and piercing sense of the present miseries and desolations of our Countrey, and those further dangers threatned from *Scotland*, We are at length erected to some cheerefull and comfortable thoughts, that possibly we may yet ( by Gods mercy, if his Justice have not determined this Nation, for its finnes, to totall ruine and desolation ) hope to be happy Instruments of our Countreys redemption, from the miseries of Warre, and restitution to the blessings of Peace. And We being desirous to beleve your Lordship ( howsoever ingaged ) a person likely to be sensibly touched with these considerations, have thought fit to invite you to that part in this blessed work, which is onely capable to repair all our misfortunes. and to boy up the Kingdom from ruine; That is, by conjuring you, by all the obligations that have power upon Honour, Conscience, or publique Piety, that laying to heart, as we do, the inwardly bleeding condition of your Countrey, and the outward more menacing destruction by a forraign Nation, upon the very point of invading it, you will cooperate with us to its preservation, by truly representing to, and faithfully and industriously promoting with those by whom you are trusted, this following most sincere and most earnest desire of ours; That they joyning with us in a right sense of the past, present, and more threatening calamities of this deplorable Kingdom, some Persons be appointed  
on

on either part, and a place agreed on, to Treat of such a Peace, as may yet redeem it from the brink of desolation.

This addresse we should not have made, but that His Majesties summons by which we are met, most graciously proclaiming pardon to all without exception, is evidence enough, That His Mercy and Clemency can transcend all former provocations, and that He hath not onely made us witnesses of His Princely Intentions, but honoured us also with the name of being security for them.

God Almighty direct your Lordship, and those to whom you shall present these our most reall desires, in such a course as may produce that happy Peace and Serlement of the present Distractions, which is so heartily desired and prayed for by us, and which may make us

From OXFORD the

Your Obedt

27 January, 1643.

We are not ashamed of that earnest, meek, and Christian request we made in that Letter, (though it was tried through London Streets in scorn, as the Petition of the Prince, and Duke of York, for Peace) and we thought it would have prevailed to have procured a Treaty for so blessed a thing as Peace, and for such an end as redeeming the Kingdom from desolation (the onely desire of that Our Letter :) but instead of a compliance with us in this Christian work of Treaty and Accommodation, we received a meer frivolous Answer, or rather a Paper of scorn, in form of a Letter, directed to



to the Earl of Forth, wherein was inclosed a Printed Paper, called, A Nationall Covenant of the Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, and two other Papers in writing, one called, A Declaration of both those Kingdoms, and the other, A Declaration of the Kingdom of *Scotland*; Pamphlets full of Treason, Sedition, and Disloyalty, which being publique and needlesse here to be inserted, the Copy of the Letter hereafter followeth.

MY LORD,

I Received this day a Letter of the Nine and Twentieth of this instant from your Lordship, and a Parchment subscribed by the Prince, Duke of *York*, and divers other Lords and Gentlemen; but it neither having addresse to the two Houses of Parliament, nor therein there being any acknowledgement of them, I could not communicate it to them. My Lord, the maintenance of the Parliament of *England*, and of the Priviledges thereof, is that for which we are all resolved to spend our blood, as being the foundation whereupon all our Laws and Liberties are built. I send your Lordship herewith, A Nationall Covenant, solemnly entred into by both the Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*; and a Declaration passed by them both together, with another Declaration of the Kingdom of *Scotland*. I rest

Essex-house,  
Jan. 30. 1643.

Your Lordships humble servant,  
ESSEX.

Whosoever

Whosoever considers this Letter, will easily finde it was fully understood to whom Ours was desired to be communicated, under the expression of (those by whom their Generall was trusted;) and although it be pretended, because there was no addresse to the two Houses of Parliament, nor acknowledgement of them, it could not be communicated to them, it is notoriously known, he did so farre impart it, that a Committee of theirs advised the Answer, and it appears by the penning, they all concurred in the resolution therein mentioned; whereby it is evident, that this was but an excuse framed to avoid a Treaty; & what could that Printed Covenant, and two Declarations enclosed signifie, but to let us know, That before we come to any Treaty, we must also joyn in that Covenant with them for the absolute extirpation of Church-Government here, (without, nay, though against the Kings Consent,) submit the Lives, Liberties, and Estates of us, and all those, who according to their Allegiance have assisted his Majesty, to their mercy, and admit and justify the Invasion from Scotland, according to the plain sense of their Declaration: which all indifferent men will think strange preparatives to a Treaty for Peace, and after such a yeelding and submission, we know not what is left to Treat upon.

These things are too apparent to every ordinary understanding; and yet we were not forward to apprehend the scorn of that Letter, or take it for a denyal of a Treaty, but being still solicitous for that happy Peace, which alone could redeem this Kingdom from ruine, we resolved to try another way, and for avoiding delay, or Cavill about names, or titles or descants

upon words, to forbear writing, and humbly besought His Majesty to send Messengers with Instructions, to desire a Treaty for Peace, who was pleased to name M. Richard Fanshawe, and M. Thomas Offly, ( Gentlemen of cleer repute and integrity, ) and to avoid their danger in repairing to Westminster, at Our desire, commanded the Earl of Forth, His Generall, to write to theirs for a safe Condukt for those two Messengers, ( for such is Our condition at present, that a free-born Subject, sent upon the Kings Message, cannot but with such leade repair to London or Westminster, without danger of his Life. ) The Letter for the safe Condukt was as followeth.

MY LORD,

I Cannot so willingly write to you in any businesse as in that of Peace, the endeavour thereof being the principall duty of those who are trusted in places of Our Commands, especially when the Blood that is spilt is of persons under the same Allegiance, of the same Countrey and Religion. His Majesty continuing constant in His pious and fervent desires of a happy end to these bloody distractions, I do hereby desire your Lordship to send me a safe Condukt to and from *Westminster*, for M. *Richard Fanshawe*, and M. *Tho: Offly*, to be sent by His Majesty concerning a Treaty for Peace. I rest,

Your Lordships humble servant  
FORTH.



*To this was returned a Letter, directed to the Earl of Forth, in these words, viz.*

MY LORD,

**Y**OU shew your Noblenesse in declaring your willingnesse to write to me in any businesse, as of that of Peace, & I joyn with you in the same opinion, that it ought to be a principall duty of those who are trusted in places of our Command; and therefore whensoever I shall receive any directions to those who have intrusted me, I shall use my best indeavours; and when you shall send for a safe Conduet for those Gentlemen, mentioned in your Letter, from His Majesty to the Houses of Parliament, I shall with all cheerfulness shew my willingness to further any way that may produce that happiness, that all honest men pray for, which is a true understanding between His Majesty and his faithfull and onely Councell, the Parliament.

Essex-house, 19.

February, 1643.

Your Lordships humble servant:

ESSEX.

That this doth neither grant a safe Conduct, or give any direct Answer to the Earl of Forths request, every ordinary eye may see, (and yet such requests amongst Generalls are rarely denyed) and we may easily thereby discern how fearfull they at Westminster are, lest the poor distressed people of this Kingdom, should by the advantage of a Treaty and free debate of the present difference, see how grossely they had been deceived and misled, and so obtain an end of their miseries: for otherwise who could have beleebed, that when these differences arose and were continued for want of a free Convention in Parliament, and that a main end of the Treaty was to resolve how we, according to Our duty and the Trust reposed in us by Our Countreys, might with them freely debate, and advise His Majesty in those things that concerned the maintenance of Our Religion, Parliaments, Priviledges, the Kings Rights, and the Subjects Liberty, and Property, that this Letter should tell us, that the Party we are to Treat withall, is the Kings onely Councell, excluding all others, not onely Our selves called by the same authority to Councell as they were, but His Privy Councell also, and Councell at Law; so that we could have no hopes of a Treaty, unlesse we should first agree that they are the Parliament and the Kings onely Councell, whereby they that are Parties would become the onely Judges of all things in question; which would be a Submission and not a Treaty.

Having received these frivolous delayes, which we might have interpreted absolute denials of any Treaty

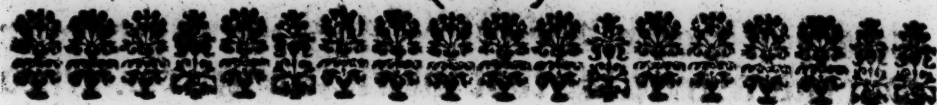
Treaty of Peace, we yet resolved not to give over  
 Our endeavours for that which so much concerned  
 the good of Our Countrey, and the welfare of all  
 Professors of the true Protestant Religion, by Our  
 humble and earnest desires to His Majesty, pre-  
 vailed with Him to write His Royall Letters, and  
 once more desire a Treaty for Peace, (though it had  
 been so often formerly rejected) and to avoid all co-  
 lour of Exception, to direct it to the Lords and Com-  
 mons of Parliament assembled at Westminster; which  
 was done and enclosed in a Letter from the Earl of  
 Forth to their Generall. A Copy of both which  
 Letters hereafter follow.

MY LORD,

I Have received your Letter of the 19. of this  
 Moneth, which, according to my duty, I shewed  
 to His Majesty, who observing in it your expressi-  
 ons concerning Peace, (that whensoever you shall  
 receive any direction to those that have entrusted  
 you, you shall use your best endeavours,) is graci-  
 ously pleased to send this enclosed, which is de-  
 sired may be delivered according to the directions.

Directed to the Earl of *Essex*, subscribed by  
 the Earl of FORTH.





C. R.

**O**Ut of Our most tender and pious  
 sense of the sad and bleeding conditi-  
 on of this Our Kingdom, and Our  
 unbearied desires to apply all remedies,  
 which by the blessing of Almighty God,  
 may recover it from an utter ruine; By  
 the advice of the Lords and Commons  
 of Parliament assembled at Oxford, we  
 do Propound and Desire, that a conve-  
 nient number of fit Persons, may be ap-  
 pointed and authorized by you to meet  
 with all convenient speed, at such Place  
 as you shall nominate, with an equall  
 number of fit Persons, whom we shall ap-  
 point and authorize to treat of the Wayes  
 and Means to settle the present distracti-  
 ons of this Our Kingdom, and to procure  
 a happy Peace. And particularly, how  
 all the Members of both Houses, may se-  
 cretely meet in a full and free Convention  
 of Parliament, there to Treat, Consult,  
 and Agree upon such things, as may con-  
 duce

duce to the maintenance and defence of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, with due consideration to all just and reasonable ease of tender Consciences; to the settling and maintaining of Our just Rights and Priviledges; of the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, the Laws of the Land, the Liberty and Property of the Subject; and all other expedients that may conduce to that blessed end of a firm and lasting Peace, both in Church and State, and a perfect understanding betwixt Us and Our People, wherein no endeavours or concurrence of Ours shall be wanting. And God direct your hearts in the wayes of Peace.

Given at Our Court at Oxford, the Third day of March. 1643.

Superscribed

*To the Lords and Commons of  
Parliament Assembled  
at Westminster.*

we now appeal to all the world, what could more have been don by His Majesty, or us, in order to Peace, here being so great a Condescending from a King to Subjects, all indifferent advantages left to them, both for time and place of Treaty, and choice of persons to Treat: But what their Intentions to Peace are, will appear by their Letter enclosed in one from their Generall, to the Earl of Forth, both which are as followeth.

MY LORD,

**I** Am Comanded by both Houses of Parliament, to send a Trumpetter with the inclosed Letter to His Majesty, which I desire your Lordship, may be most humbly presented to His Majesty. I rest,

Your Lordships humble servant,  
ESSEX.

Essex-house, March

9. 1643.

*May it please Your Majesty,*

**W**E, the Lords and Commons Assembled in the Parliament of England, taking into our consideration a Letter sent from Your Majesty, dated the third of March, instant, and directed to the Lords and Commons of Parliament, Assembled at  
West-



*Westminster*, ( which by the Contents of a Letter from the Earl of *Forth*, unto the Lord Generall, the Earl of *Essex*, we conceive was intended to our selves ) Have resolved with the concurrent advice, and consent of the Commissioners of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, to represent to Your Majesty, in all humility and plainnesse, as followeth.

*That*, as we have used all means for a just, and a safe Peace; so will we never be wanting to do our utmost for the procuring thereof: But when we consider the expressions in that Letter of Your Majesties, We have more sad, and despairing thoughts of attaining the same, then ever; because thereby, those Persons now Assembled at *Oxford*, who contrary to their duty have deserted Your Parliament are put into an equall Condition with it; and this present Parliament Convened, according to the known and Fundamentall Laws of the Kingdom (the continuance whereof is established by a Law consented unto by Your Majesty,) is in effect denyed to be a Parliament; The Scope, and Intention of that Letter being to make provision how all the Members (as is pretended) of both Houses, may securely meet in a full, and free Convention of Parliament: whereof no other conclusion can be made, but that this present

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Parliament is not a full nor free convention ; And that to make it a full and free Convention of Parliament, the presence of those is Necessary ; who, notwithstanding that they have deserted that great *Trust*, and do Levy War against the Parliament, are pretended to be Members of the two Houses of Parliament.

*And hereupon we think our selves bound to let Your Majesty know, That seeing the continuance of this Parliament is settled by a Law ( which as all other Laws of Your Kingdoms, Your Majesty hath sworn to maintain, as we are sworn to our Allegiance to Your Majesty, ( these Obligations being reciprocally, ) we must in duty, and accordingly, are resolved with our Lives and Fortunes, to defend and preserve the Just Rights, and full Power of this Parliament : And do beseech Your Majesty to be assured, That Your Majesties Royall, and hearty Concurrence with us herein, will be the most effectually, and ready means of procuring a firm and lasting Peace, in all Your Majesties Dominions, and of begetting a perfect understanding between Your Majesty, and Your People ; without which Your Majesties most earnest Professions, and our most reall Intentions concerning the same, must necessarily be frustrated.*

And

And in case Your Majesties three Kingdoms should, by reason thereof, remain in this sad and bleeding Condition, tending, by the continuance of this unnaturall *War*, to their *Ruine*; Your Majesty cannot be the least, nor the last sufferer. God in his goodnesse incline Your Royall Breast, out of pittie and compassion to those deep sufferings of Your Innocent People, to put a speedy, and happy Issue to these desperate Evills, by the joynt advice of both Your Kingdoms, now happily united in this *Cause*, by their late solemn *League and Covenant*. Which as it will prove the surest remedy; so is it the earnest Prayer of Your Majesties Loyall Subjects, the *Lords and Commons* Assembled in the Parliament of *England*.

*Westminster the 9.  
of March 1643.*

*Grey of warke, Speaker of the  
House of Peers in Parliament,  
pro tempore.*

*William Lenthall Speaker of the  
Commons-House in Parliament.*

Whosoever considers that this should be a Letter from Subjects, might well thinke it very unbecoming language in them, to call His Majesties earnest endeavours for Peace, but Protections, and their own feigned pretence, most reall Intentions, but much more menacing language, that His Majesty cannot be the least or last Sufferer; which expressions from Subjects in Arms to their Soueraign, what dangerous

construction they may admit, we are unwilling to mention.

But we need not wonder at the manner of their expressions, when we see in this Letter the Parliament it self, as farre as in them lies, destroyed, and those who here stile themselves, The Lords and Commons assembled in the Parliament of England, not to resolve upon their Answer to their King, without the concurrent advice and consent of the Commissioners, as they call them, of the Kingdom of Scotland.

If they had onely taken the advice of the Scottish Commissioners, they had broken the fundamentall Constitution of Parliament; the very Writs of Summons, the foundation of all power in Parliament, being in expresse termes for the Lords to treat and advise with the King and the Peers of the Kingdom of England, and for the Commons to do and consent to those things, which by that Common Councell of England should be ordained, thereby excluding all others.

But their League, it seems, is gone further; the Scots must consent as well as advise, so that they have gotten a negative voice, and they, who in the former Letter would be the Kings onely Councell, are now become no Councell without the Scottish Commissioners: the truth is, they have (besides the solemn League and Covenant with the Scots, (which their Letter mentions) a strange and traiterous presumption for Subjects to make a Covenant and League with Subjects of another Kingdom without their Prince,) made private bargains with the Scots touching our Estates, and a private agreement,



agreement, not to Treat without their consent, as some of themselves being afraid of a Treaty, openly declared to the Common-Councell of London; and therefore 'tis no wonder, that being touched to the quick, with the apprehension that they are not, nor can be in this condition, a full and free Convention of Parliament. They charge us with deserting our trust, and would have us to be no Members of the Parliament. They may remember it was our want of freedom within, and the seditious Tumults without, their many multiplied Treasons there, and imposing Traiterous Oathes, which enforced our absence: but concerning that and the want of freedom in Parliament, we shall say no more here, (that being the subject of another Declaration,) onely we wish them to consider by what fundamentall Laws of the Kingdom (which they have lately wrested to serve all turns) they can exclude us from our Votes in Parliament, who were duly summoned, chosen, and returned Members of Parliament, and take in those of another Kingdom to their resolutions, who are not bound by our Laws.

But what violation soever they make of the Laws, they are forward to put the King in minde of His Duty; and therefore tell Him, That He is sworn to maintain the Laws, as they are sworn to their Allegiance to Him, these obligations being reciprocall; it is true in some sense, that the oath of the King and Subjects is reciprocall, that is, each is bound to perform what they swear, the King as well as the Subjects; but he that will well weigh their Letter, and make one part have connexion with the other, and examine that part of their Covenant,

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whereby they swear they will defend the Kings Person and Authority (no further or otherwise then) in preservation of their Religion and Liberties, may easily finde another Construction, viz. That the Subjects Allegiance is no longer due then the King performs his Duty, nay, no longer then He in their opinion observes his Duty, whereof they themselves must be Judges; and if He faile in his Duty, they may take up Arms against Him; a principle which as it is utterly destructive to all Government, so we beleebe, they themselves dare not plainly avow it, lest as they now make use of it against the King, so the People finding their faile of Duty, and breach of Trust, should hereafter practise it by taking up Arms against them, and so shake off that yoke of tyrannie imposed by their fellow-Subjects, which lies so hea-  
 vie upon them. It were well, as they still presse upon the King maintenance of the Laws, they would also know that their obligation to observe the same is reciprocall, and while they here resolve to defend and preserve the full power of this Parliament, (which in their sense can be no other then the power they have exercised this Parliament) they would take notice, that they are therein so farre from observation of the Laws, that they desperately resolve an utter subversion of them; for what can more tend to the destruction of the Laws, then to usurp a power to themselves without the King, and against his will to raise Arms, to attribute to their Orders or pretended Ordinances, the power of Laws and Statutes, to enforce Contributions, Loans, and Taxes of all sorts from the Subject, to imprison without cause shewed, and then prohibit Writs of Habeas Cor-

pus for their enlargement, to lay Exercises upon all Commodities, to command and dispose of the Lives and Estates of the free-born Subjects of this Kingdom at their pleasure, to impose Tonnage and Poundage, contrary to the Law declared in the late Act for Tonnage and Poundage, and all this done and justified, as by a legall civill power founded and inherent in them? all which are manifest breaches of the Petition of Right and Magna Charta, the great Evidence of the Liberties of England; which Charter by expresse words binds them and us, though assembled in Parliament, as well as the King, and though it be not now, as heretofore it hath been, taken by solemn Oath on the Peoples part as well as on the Kings, nor a curse as heretofore pronounced on the violaters, yet they having taken a Protestation to maintain the Laws, and the Liberties, and Properties of the Subject, and inclusively that Charter, let them take heed whilst they make use of this their pretended Power to the destruction of the Law, lest a curse fall upon them and upon their posterity. God knoweth, and it is too certain a truth, that Our selves and many other good Subjects in this Kingdom, even under the power of the Kings Army, have suffered exceedingly in Liberty and Estates during this present Rebellion, by many heavy charges; the sad consideration whereof makes our hearts bleed, because we can see no way for relief, so long as this unnaturall Rebellion continues: but as these things were first practised by them, and thereby necessitated upon the Kings Army; so it was never yet pretended that they were done by vertue of a Law, but either by consent, or by the unhappy and

un-

unboydable exigences of war, and to expire with  
 the present Rebellion, which God in mercy hasten.  
 For our parts we have the inward comfort of our  
 own consciences, witnessing with us, that we have  
 improved all opportunities and advantages for the  
 restoring of this Kingdom to its former Peace; and  
 we must witnesse for His Majesty his most hearty de-  
 sires thereof: and though both His Majesty and our  
 endeavours therein have been made frustrate, yet  
 God in his great goodnesse hath raised up our spirits,  
 not to desert our Religion, our King, our Laws, our  
 Lives, the Liberties of us English free-born Sub-  
 jects, and by Gods assistance and His Majesties con-  
 currence, we do resolve to unite our selves as one  
 man, and cheerfully adventure our Lives and Estates  
 for the maintenance and defence of the true Reform-  
 ed Protestant Religion of the Church of England, ( of  
 which we professe our selves to be, ) for the defence of  
 the Kings Person and Rights of his Crown, for the  
 regaining and maintaining the Rights and Privi-  
 ledges of Parliament, and the Liberty of the Sub-  
 jects person, and Property of his Estate, according to  
 the known Laws of the Land, to repell those of the  
 Scottish Nation, that have in a warlike manner en-  
 tred this Realm, and to reduce the Subjects there-  
 of, now in Rebellion, to the Kings obedience: and we  
 doubt not but the same God will enlighten the eyes  
 of the poor deceived People of this Land, like true  
 hearted honest English men, to joyn unanimously  
 with us in so just and pious a work. And the God of  
 Heaven prosper us, according to the goodnesse of the  
 Cause we have in hand.

The





The Names of the Lords and Commons of *Parliament* Assembled at *Oxford*, who did subscribe the Letter to the Earl of *Essex*, dated *January 27, 1643.*

C H A R L E S. P.  
Y O R K.  
C U M B E R L A N D.

Ed. Littleton C. S.

Fra. Cottington.

D. Richmond.

M. Hertford.

E. Lindsey.

E. Dorset.

E. Shrewsbury.

E. Bath.

E. Southampton.

E. Leicester.

E. Northampton.

E. Devonshire.

E. Carlile.

E. Bristol.

E. Barkshire.

E. Cleveland.

E. Rivers.

E. Dover.

E. Peterborough.

E. Kingston.

E. Newport.

E. Portland.

V. Conway.

L. Digby.

L. Moubray & Mattravers.

L. Wentworth.

L. Cromwell.

L. Rich.

L. Paget.

L. Chandos.

L. Howard of Charlton.

L. Lovelace.

L. Savile.

L. Mohun.

L. Dunsmore.

L. Seymore.

L. Percy.

L. Wilmott.

L. Leigh.

L. Hatton.

L. Jermin.

L. Carrington.

D

John

**I**ohn Fettiplace.  
 Alex. Denton.  
 John Packington.  
 Tho. Smith.  
 F. Gamul.  
 Jo. Harris.  
 Joseph Jane.  
 Ric. Edgecombe.  
 Jonathan Rashleigh.  
 G. Fane.  
 P. Edgecombe.  
 Will. Glanvill.  
 Ro. Holborn.  
 Ra. Sydenham.  
 Fr. Godolphin.  
 Geo. Parry.  
 Amb. Minaton.  
 Ri. Vyvyan.  
 Jo. Polewheile.  
 John Arundell.  
 Tho. Lower.  
 Edw. Hide.  
 Will. Allestree.  
 Geo. Stonehouse.  
 Ed. Seymour.  
 Peter Sainthill.  
 Will. Poole.  
 Roger Mathew.  
 Ri. Arundell.  
 Ro. Walker.  
 Giles Strangwaies.  
 John Strangwaies.  
 Tho. Hele.

Ger. Naper.  
 Sam. Turner.  
 Will. Constantine.  
 Hen. Killigrew.  
 Ri. King.  
 John Dutton.  
 Hen. Bret.  
 Will. Chadwell.  
 Theobald Gorges.  
 John George.  
 Tho. Fanshaw.  
 Humf. Conningesby.  
 Ri. Seaborn.  
 Arth. Ranelagh.  
 Tho. Tomkins.  
 Sampson Evers.  
 John Culpeper.  
 Jeffrey Palmer.  
 John Harrison.  
 Tho. Fanshaw.  
 Rog. Palmer.  
 Orlando Bridgman.  
 Will. Watkins.  
 John Smith.  
 Tho. Bludder.  
 Ed. Littleton.  
 Harvy Bagot.  
 Ri. Leveson.  
 Ri. Cave.  
 Ri. Weston.  
 Ri. Lee.  
 Tho. Whitmore.  
 Ed. Aston.

C. Baldwin.  
 R. Goodwin,  
 Tho. Howard,  
 Tho. Littleton,  
 Ro. Howard,  
 John Meux,  
 Matthew Davis,  
 F. Cornwallis,  
 Tho. Jermyn,  
 John Tayler,  
 William Bassett,  
 William Portman,  
 Edw. Rodney,  
 Tho. Hanham,  
 Ed. Phelipps,  
 John Digby,  
 Ed. Kirton.  
 Christ. Leuknor,  
 Edw. Alford,  
 John White,  
 John Ashburnham,  
 Will. Smith,  
 Tho. Leeds,  
 I. Thynne,  
 W. Pleydell,  
 Ro. Hide,

Ed. Griffin.  
 Walter Smith,  
 Geo. Lowe,  
 Ric. Harding,  
 Hen. Herbert,  
 End. Porter,  
 Sam. Sandys,  
 John Bodvill,  
 Will. Morgan,  
 Will. Thomas  
 Jo. Mostyn,  
 Hen. Bellasis,  
 Geo. Wentworth.  
 Will. Malory,  
 Ri. Aldburgh,  
 John Salisbury,  
 Will. Herbert,  
 William Price,  
 John Price,  
 R. Herbert,  
 Cha. Price,  
 Phil. Warwick,  
 Tho. Cooke,  
 Rob. Crooke,  
 Herb. Price,  
 John Whistler,



**T**Hese *Peers* following, being disabled by severall accidents to appear sooner, have since attended the Service and concurred with us:

Viscount *Cambden*,  
 Lord *Aburgavenny*,  
 Lord *Arundell*,

Lord *Capell*,  
 Lord *Newport*,

**Peers** imployed in His Majesties Service, or  
 absent with leave.

Marquesse of *Winchester*,  
 Marquesse of *Worcester*,  
 Marquesse of *New-castle*,  
 Earl of *Darby*,  
 Earl of *Huntingdon*,  
 Earl of *Clare*,  
 Earl of *Marleborough*,  
 V. *Falkonbridge*,  
 L. *Morley*,  
 L. *Darcy and Coniers*.  
 L. *Sturton*,

L. *Evers*,  
 L. *Daincourt*,  
 L. *Pawlet*,  
 L. *Brudnell*,  
 L. *Powesse*,  
 L. *Herbert of Cherbury*,  
 L. *Hopton*,  
 L. *Loughborough*,  
 L. *Byron*,  
 L. *Vaughan*,  
 L. *Witherington*,

**Peers** absent in the parts beyond the Seas.

Earl of *Arundell*,  
 Earl of *St. Albans*,  
 L. Viscount *Mountague*,  
 L. Viscount *Stafford*.  
 L. *Stanhop*.

L. *Coventry*.  
 L. *Goring*,  
 L. *Craven of Hamsted*.  
 L. *Craven of Ryton*,

**Peers**

Peer in Prison for their Loyalty to His Majesty.

Earl of *Chesterfield*.

*L. Mountague of Boughton.*

Whoever views these numbers, and considers how many Peers are at this time under age, will quickly know, who and how many are privy or consenting to the Counsells at *Westminster*.

**T**Hese Members following, being disabled by severall accidents to appear sooner, have since attended the Service, and concurred with us.

*Peter Venables,*  
*Sir John Pawlet,*  
*Edward Bagshaw,*  
*Sir John Burlafey,*  
*Francis Newport,*  
*Anthony Hungerford,*  
*John Russell,*  
*Thomas Chichley,*  
*Earl of Cork,*  
*Sir Gervase Clifton,*  
*Sir Guy Palmes,*  
*Robert Sutton,*

*Gervase Hollis,*  
*Sir Patritius Curwen,*  
*Sir Henry Bellingham,*  
*Sir George Dalston,*  
*Sir Thomas Sandford,*  
*Sir William Dalston,*  
*Michaell Wharton,*  
*Sir Robert Hatton,*  
*James Scudamore,*  
*Sir John Brooke,*  
*Sir John Stepney,*

Imployed in His Majesties Service, or absent with leave, or by Sicknesse.

*Sir John Fennick,*  
*Hugh Potter,*

*Walter Kyrle,*  
*William Stanhop,*

*Sir William Carnaby,*  
*Sir Thomas Danby,*  
*John Fennick,*  
*Ralph Sneade,*  
*Sir William Ogle,*  
*Sir Thomas Iermayne*  
*Sir Sohn Stowell,*  
*Sir Robert Strickland,*  
*Sir Philip Musgrave,*  
*John Cowcher,*  
*John Coventry,*  
*Sir Henry Slingsby,*  
*Sir Iohn Malory,*  
*Iohn Bellasis,*  
*Sir Thomas Ingram,*

*Lord Mansfeild,*  
*Thomas Heblethwayte,*  
*Sir Hugh Cholmely,*  
*Sir George Wentworth,*  
*Sir Walter LLoyd,*  
*Sir Henry Vaughan,*  
*Francis LLoyd,*  
*Iohn Vaughan,*  
*Richard Ferrers,*  
*George Hartnoll,*  
*Sir William Vdall,*  
*Robert Hunt,*  
*Thomas May,*  
*Sir Thomas Bowyer,*  
*Sir Tho. Roe,*

Whoever now considers how many have retired themselves into severall Counties, and so are absent from *Westminster*, and yet cannot through the danger of Travelling be present at *Oxford*; how many have withdrawn themselves into the parts beyond the Seas; how many of their own principall Instruments are Voted out of the House by themselves, as *Sir Iohn Hotham* and his Sonne, *Sir Alexander Carew*, *M. Martin*, *M. Fiennes*, and many others; and how many now are Imprisoned by them; how many Members from the beginning have been factiously kept from the House upon questions of Election; and how many without any Colour, are kept in, by not suffering their Elections to be reported; and that there are Thirty five Members dead, into whose Rooms no new Persons are chosen; how many since are become Barons by descent or Creation, will easily conclude how small the number is which remains, and of those how few in truth have right to sit there.

FINIS.



